

A Kingdom of Priests — Teaching Notes

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Part 1—The Calling of a Priest

Camped Before the Mountain

- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:1 (NKJV)} In the third month after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on the same day, they came to the Wilderness of Sinai.
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:2} For they had departed from Rephidim, had come to the Wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness. So Israel camped there before the mountain.

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- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:3} And Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel:
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:4} You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself.
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:5} Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:6} And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.

All The Lord has Spoken

- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:7} So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before them all these words which the LORD commanded him.
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:8} Then all the people answered together and said, All that the LORD has spoken we will do. So Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD.
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:9} And the LORD said to Moses, Behold, I come to you in the thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever. So Moses told the words of the people to the LORD.

Consecrated

- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:10} Then the LORD said to Moses, Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes.
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:11} And let them be ready for the third day. For on the third day the LORD will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:12} You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, Take heed to yourselves that you do not go up to the mountain or touch its base. Whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death.

Be Ready for the Third Day

- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:13} Not a hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned or shot with an arrow; whether man or beast, he shall not live. When the trumpet sounds long, they shall come near the mountain.
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:14} So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified the people, and they washed their clothes.
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:15} And he said to the people, Be ready for the third day; do not come near your wives.

The Third Day

- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:16} Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled.
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:17} And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain.
- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:18} Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly.

The Lord Descends

- ⌘ ^{Exo 19:19} And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice.

⌘ Exo 19:20 Then the LORD came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

⌘ Let the Priests who Come Near

⌘ Exo 19:21 And the LORD said to Moses, Go down and warn the people, lest they break through to gaze at the LORD, and many of them perish.

⌘ Exo 19:22 Also let the priests who come near the LORD consecrate themselves, lest the LORD break out against them.

⌘ Exo 19:23 But Moses said to the LORD, The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai; for You warned us, saying, Set bounds around the mountain and consecrate it.

Away!

⌘ Exo 19:24 Then the LORD said to him, Away! Get down and then come up, you and Aaron with you. But do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the LORD, lest He break out against them.

⌘ Exo 19:25 So Moses went down to the people and spoke to them.

— Why was God upset with Moses?

- ❖ The Torah first mentions priesthood in the narrative describing the revelation at Sinai. God commands Moshe to descend the mountain and warn the people and “the priests who come near the Lord” to keep their distance.
- ❖ Who are these priests who come near the lord?
- ❖ Apparently, they are not solely Aaron and his sons. In this light, the command to designate Aaron and his sons as priests constitutes not just an act of enfranchising a select group, but also a delegitimization and disenfranchisement of a larger group.

Tablets of Stone

⌘ Exo 24:12 Then the LORD said to Moses, Come up to Me on the mountain and be there; and I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach them.

⌘ Exo 24:18 So Moses went into the midst of the cloud and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

- ^{Deu 10:1} At that time the Lord said to me, Hew for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and come up to Me on the mountain and make yourself an ark of wood.
- ^{Deu 10:2} And I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke; and you shall put them in the ark.
- ^{Deu 10:16} Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer.
- ^{Eze 36:26} I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.
- ^{2Co 3:3} Clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart.

Aaron Taken as Priest

- ⌘ ^{Exo 28:1} Now take Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to Me as priest, Aaron and Aaron's sons: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.
- ^{Deu 10:8} At that time the Lord separated the tribe of Levi to bear the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister to Him and to bless in His name, to this day.
- ^{Deu 10:9} Therefore Levi has no portion nor inheritance with his brethren; the Lord is his inheritance, just as the Lord your God promised him.)

Levi Stands with Moses

- ⌘ ^{Exo 32:26} Then Moses stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, Whoever is on the Lord's side—come to me! And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him.

A Royal Priesthood

- ⌘ ^{1Pe 2:9} But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

- ^{Rev 5:9} And they sang a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,
- ^{Rev 5:10} And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth.

Ministry of a King

- α ^{Mat 25:25} But Jesus called them to Himself and said, You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.
- α ^{Mat 25:26} Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.
- α ^{Mat 25:27} And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave.
- α ^{Mat 28:28} Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.
 - ^{Jer 3:15} And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Ministry of a Priest

- ⌘ ^{Exo 28:1} Now take Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to Me as priest.
 - Who does a king minister to?
 - Who does a priest minister to?
 - What is your highest calling?
 - Where do you minister as a priest?

Keeping His Tabernacle

- ⌘ ^{Num 1:53} The Levites shall camp around the tabernacle of the Testimony, that there may be no wrath on the congregation of the children of Israel; and the Levites shall keep charge of the tabernacle of the Testimony.
 - ^{1Pe 2:4} Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,
 - ^{1Pe 2:5} you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Blessing in His Name Forever

⚡ ^{Deu 10:8} At that time the Lord separated the tribe of Levi to bear the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister to Him and to bless in His name, to this day.

— ^{2Co 5:20} Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

— ^{1Cro 23:13} The sons of Amram: Aaron and Moses; and Aaron was set apart, he and his sons forever, that he should sanctify the most holy things, to burn incense before the Lord, to minister to Him, and to give the blessing in His name forever.

Blast the Trumpets!

⚡ ^{Num 10:8} The sons of Aaron, the priests, are to blow the trumpets. This is to be a lasting ordinance for you and the generations to come.

⚡ ^{Num 10:9} When you go into battle in your own land against an enemy who is oppressing you, sound a blast on the trumpets. Then you will be remembered by the LORD your God and rescued from your enemies.

Temple of The Living God

⚡ ^{Joh 4:21} Jesus said to her, Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father.

⚡ ^{Joh 4:23} But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

⚡ ^{Joh 4:24} God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

⚡ ^{2Co 6:16} For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

— ^{Co 3:17} If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

— ^{Mat 6:6} But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Part 2—The Life of a Priest

The Holy Anointing Oil

- ✚ ^{Exo 30:25} And you shall make from these a holy anointing oil, an ointment compounded according to the art of the perfumer. It shall be a holy anointing oil.
- ✚ ^{Exo 30:30} And you shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may minister to Me as priests.
- ✚ ^{Exo 30:31} And you shall speak to the children of Israel, saying: This shall be a holy anointing oil to Me throughout your generations.

Consecration and Sanctification

- ❖ Consecrate – To make or declare something sacred, typically a church; to dedicate formally to a religious or divine purpose.
- ❖ Sanctify – To set apart as or declare something holy; to consecrate. Therefore, consecration and sanctification have a similar purpose.
 - ^{Exo 28:41} So you shall put them (tunics) on Aaron your brother and on his sons with him. You shall anoint them, consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister to Me as priests.

Holy

- ❖ Holy – Specially recognized as or declared sacred by religious use or authority; consecrated. Therefore, consecration and sanctification, which have a similar purpose, also mean to make something or someone “holy.”

Sanctification at Salvation

- ❖ Sanctification is a state of separation unto God; all believers enter into this state when they are born of God. This is a work of the Holy Spirit.
 - ^{Heb 10:9} Then He said, Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God. He takes away the first that He may establish the second.
 - ^{Heb 10:10} By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Ongoing Sanctification

- ❖ Sanctification also refers to the practical experience of this separation unto God, being the effect of obedience to the Word of God in one's life, and is to be pursued by the believer earnestly. This is an ongoing work of the Holy Spirit, and requires submission of the believer to the work of the Spirit.
 - ^{1Pe 1:13} Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;
 - ^{1Pe 1:14} as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance;
 - ^{1Pe 1:15} but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,
 - ^{1Pe 1:16} because it is written, Be holy, for I am holy.
 - ^{Heb 10:14} For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.
 - ^{Heb 12:14} Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.
 - ^{1Th 4:3} For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality.
 - ^{2Ti 2:21} Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

Our Finished Sanctification

- ❖ Complete sanctification will come when we go to be with Christ. This glorified state will be our ultimate separation from sin, total sanctification in every aspect. This is the final work of the Holy Spirit.
 - ^{1Th 5:23} Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 - ^{1Co 15:52} In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

The Faith of a Priest

- α ^{Rom 12:3} For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.
- α ^{Rom 10:17} So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Love The Lord Your God

- ⚡ ^{Deu 6:5} You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.
 - Pursuing the Lord requires that our whole heart and mind be filled with His spirit, and it requires our entire will and strength to be surrendered to His.
 - ^{1John 4:8} He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

The Heart of a Priest

- ⚡ ^{Eze 36:26} I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.
- α ^{Mat 6:21} For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
 - Holiness is when I present the alter of my heart to God as a freewill offering and say: Lord, this heart is yours.

The Mind of a Priest

- α ^{Rom 12:2} And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
- α ^{Eph 4:23} Be renewed in the spirit of your mind.
- α ^{Jas 1:5} If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.
- α ^{1Co 2:16} For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.

The Strength of a Priest

- ✠ Neh 8:10 Do not sorrow, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.
- ✠ Psa 29:2 Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name; Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- ✠ 1Th 5:16 Rejoice always,
- ✠ 1Th 5:17 pray without ceasing,
- ✠ 1Th 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

The Armor of a Priest

- ✠ Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,
- ✠ Eph 6:15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
- ✠ Eph 6:16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.
- ✠ Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The Power of a Priest

- ✠ Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.
- ✠ 1Co 14:1 Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.
- ✠ 1Co 4:20 For the kingdom of God is not in word but in power.

Pray Always

- ✠ Eph 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.

- According to the word history of supplication, it refers to a bending down and indicates a bowing or kneeling in submission. In 1 Kings 8:34 it states, "And it was so, that when Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven." By extension of this picture, to supplicate is to ask for humbly and earnestly. It refers most to the attitude of our prayer.

Praise and Worship

- ❖ Worship – The most common word in the New Testament for "worship" is Proskuneo (προσκυνέω – pros-kü-ne'-ō), meaning to kiss the hand towards one in token of reverence, to fall upon the knees and touch the ground with the forehead as an expression of profound reverence, kneeling or prostration to do homage or make obeisance (bowing), whether in order to express respect or to make supplication to God.
 - But is this definition truly worship, or simply an expression of something much deeper?
 - In Hebrew, there is no direct word for worship, only words that show expressions of praise, such as: holding out ones hand, kneeling, bowing, prostrating, thanking, singing, shouting, dancing, and playing musical instruments.
- ❖ Worship is therefore an internal condition of the heart, and no word can describe the deep emotions of our spirit. It is an adoration of the One we love and an reciprocation of His love. There does not necessarily have to be anything visible when we worship the Lord.
- ❖ Praise is the external, visible expression of the worship, the adoration in our hearts towards the One we love. And, it is the release of His love through our words and other actions such as singing, dancing, raising our hands, and serving.

Worship

- ✠ Psa 66:4 All the earth shall worship You And sing praises to You; They shall sing praises to Your name. Selah
- ✠ Psa 95:6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

Praise

ℵ Psa 109:30 I will greatly praise the LORD with my mouth; Yes, I will praise Him among the multitude.

ℵ Psa 69:30 I will praise the name of God with a song, And will magnify Him with thanksgiving.

— Psa 150:4 Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes!

— Psa 150:3 Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp!

— Psa 150:5 Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with clashing cymbals!

The Power of Praise

ℵ Psa 40:3 He has put a new song in my mouth—Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear, And will trust in the Lord.

ℵ Psa 149:6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, And a two-edged sword in their hand,

ℵ Psa 149:7 To execute vengeance on the nations, And punishments on the peoples;

ℵ Psa 149:8 To bind their kings with chains, And their nobles with fetters of iron;

ℵ Psa 149:9 To execute on them the written judgment—This honor have all His saints. Praise the Lord!

Spirit and Truth

α Joh 4:23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

— What is Jesus telling us in this verse?

— If worship is an internal condition of the heart, and several expressions of worship include kneeling and bowing down, then a requirement for having a worshipful heart is submission to God.

— Gal 5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

- Joh 14:6 Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
- To summarize, we must submit to the Holy Spirit and walk in the Spirit. This will enable us to follow Jesus who is truth. Jesus only did what He saw the Father doing. And we are to imitate Jesus, doing what we see our Father doing through the prophetic revelation of the Holy Spirit.

Our Outward Response

- ❖ Joh 14:15 If you love Me, keep My commandments.
- ❖ 1Jn 3:23 And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.
- ❖ Joh 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

The Manner of the Christians

- ❖ For the Christians are distinguished from other men neither by country, nor language, nor the customs which they observe.
- ❖ For they neither inhabit cities of their own, nor employ a peculiar form of speech, nor lead a life which is marked out by any singularity.
- ❖ The course of conduct which they follow has not been devised by any speculation or deliberation of inquisitive men; nor do they, like some, proclaim themselves the advocates of any merely human doctrines.
- ❖ But, inhabiting Greek as well as barbarian cities, according as the lot of each of them has determined, and following the customs of the natives in respect to clothing, food, and the rest of their ordinary conduct, they display to us their wonderful and confessedly striking method of life.
- ❖ They dwell in their own countries, but simply as sojourners.
- ❖ As citizens, they share in all things with others, and yet endure all things as if foreigners.
- ❖ Every foreign land is to them as their native country, and every land of their birth as a land of strangers.
- ❖ They marry, as do all others; they beget children; but they do not destroy their offspring.
- ❖ They have a common table, but not a common bed.

- ❖ They are in the flesh, but they do not live after the flesh.
- ❖ They pass their days on earth, but they are citizens of heaven.
- ❖ They obey the prescribed laws, and at the same time surpass the laws by their lives. They love all men, and are persecuted by all.
- ❖ They are unknown and condemned; they are put to death, and restored to life.
- ❖ They are poor, yet make many rich; they are in lack of all things, and yet abound in all; they are dishonoured, and yet in their very dishonour are glorified.
- ❖ They are evil spoken of, and yet are justified; they are reviled, and bless; they are insulted, and repay the insult with honour; they do good, yet are punished as evil-doers.
- ❖ When punished, they rejoice as if quickened into life; they are assailed by the Jews as foreigners, and are persecuted by the Greeks; yet those who hate them are unable to assign any reason for their hatred.

Our Life Template

- ❖ **Q** ^{2Ch 7:14} If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.
 - ❖ If we humble ourselves. This is an act of seeking His will and dying to self.
 - ^{Rom 8:13} For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.
 - ❖ If we pray. We are lacking because we have not asked our heavenly Father. Prayer is everything. Nothing happens in His kingdom without prayer.
 - ^{1Ti 2:8} I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.
 - ❖ If we seek His face. The veil has been torn. Should we not approach our God?
 - ^{Mat 18:10} Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.
 - ❖ If we turn away from our sins. Walking in His Spirit and rejecting the things of this world and the desires of the flesh.
 - ^{Jas 4:7} Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

Experiencing the Holy Spirit

- ❖ We know that God lives and dwells within us, but we desire to experience more of Him.
 - ^{Heb 13:5} Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.
 - As we press into His presence through humble submission, prayer, supplication, worship, praise, and reading His word, He will respond by increasing our faith and desire for Him. We will experience more of His presence in our lives, and we will encounter the power of His Holy Spirit.
 - This obedient and surrendered lifestyle, and personal sanctification is a daily walk with the Lord; clearing our hearts and minds of other distractions, seeking the Lord, and reaffirming continually within our hearts:
 - "I desire only You, YHVH, and nothing of this world. I am fully surrendered to You; my mind and will are obedient to Your word. My whole heart is Yours. I am Your possession, and you are my inheritance. I am desperate for You. I need You like Oxygen. I Love You!"
 - And let us all say Amen!

Part 3—The Priestly Community

Cities of the Levites

- ⌘ Num 35:2 Command the children of Israel that they give the Levites cities to dwell in from the inheritance of their possession, and you shall also give the Levites common-land around the cities.
- ⌘ Num 35:7 So all the cities you will give to the Levites shall be forty-eight; these you shall give with their common-land.
- ⌘ Num 35:8 And the cities which you will give shall be from the possession of the children of Israel; from the larger tribe you shall give many, from the smaller you shall give few. Each shall give some of its cities to the Levites, in proportion to the inheritance that each receives.

One Accord

- ⌘ Act 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- ⌘ Act 2:43 Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.
- ⌘ Act 2:44 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common,
- ⌘ Act 2:45 and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.
- ⌘ Act 2:46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,
- ⌘ Act 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

The Early Church

- ❖ We are a body knit together as such by a common religious profession, by unity of discipline, and by the bond of a common hope.

- ❖ We meet together as an assembly and congregation, that, offering up prayer to God as with united force, we may wrestle with Him in our supplications. This violence God delights in.
- ❖ We pray, too, for the emperors, for their ministers and for all in authority, for the welfare of the world, for the prevalence of peace, for the delay of the final consummation.
- ❖ We assemble to read our sacred writings, if any peculiarity of the times makes either forewarning or reminiscence needful.
- ❖ However it be in that respect, with the sacred words we nourish our faith, we animate our hope, we make our confidence more stedfast; and no less by inculcations of God's precepts we confirm good habits.
- ❖ In the same place also exhortations are made, rebukes and sacred censures are administered.
- ❖ For with a great gravity is the work of judging carried on among us, as befits those who feel assured that they are in the sight of God; and you have the most notable example of judgment to come when any one has sinned so grievously as to require his severance from us in prayer, in the congregation and in all sacred intercourse.
- ❖ The tried men of our elders preside over us, obtaining that honour not by purchase, but by established character.
- ❖ There is no buying and selling of any sort in the things of God.
- ❖ Though we have our treasure-chest, it is not made up of purchase-money, as of a religion that has its price.
- ❖ On the monthly day, if he likes, each puts in a small donation; but only if it be his pleasure, and only if he be able: for there is no compulsion; all is voluntary.
- ❖ These gifts are, as it were, piety's deposit fund.
- ❖ For they are not taken thence and spent on feasts, and drinking-bouts, and eating-houses, but to support and bury poor people, to supply the wants of boys and girls destitute of means and parents, and of old persons confined now to the house; such, too, as have suffered shipwreck; and if there happen to be any in the mines, or banished to the islands, or shut up in the prisons, for nothing but their fidelity to the cause of God's Church, they become the nurslings of their confession.
- ❖ But it is mainly the deeds of a love so noble that lead many to put a brand upon us.
- ❖ See, they say, how they love one another, for themselves are animated by mutual hatred; how they are ready even to die for one another, for they themselves will sooner put to death.

Monasticism

- ❖ Monasticism in Christianity, which provides the origins of the words “monk” and “monastery,” comprises several diverse forms of religious living. It began to develop early in the history of the Church, but is not mandated as an institution in the scriptures.
- ❖ The Christian monk embraces the monastic life as a vocation for God. His goal is to attain eternal life in his presence.
- ❖ The need for some form of organized spiritual guidance was obvious; and in Egypt, between 318-323 A.D., Saint Pachomius started to organize his many followers in what was to become the first Christian cenobitic or communal monastery.

Irish Monasticism

- ❖ The monastic ideal was regarded as the utmost expression of the Christian life. Irish monasticism was notable for its permeability. In permeable monasticism, people were able to move freely in and out of the monastic system at different points of life. This willingness to learn, and also to teach, was a hallmark of the “permeable monasticism” that so characterized the Irish monastery.
- ❖ While a hermitage was still the highest form of dedication, the monasteries were very open to allowing students and children within the walls for an education, without requiring them to become monks. These students were then allowed to leave and live within the community, and were welcomed back in their old age to retire in peace.
- ❖ This style of monasticism allowed for the monastery to connect with, and become a part of, the community at large. The availability of the monks to the people was instrumental in converting Ireland from paganism to Christianity, allowing a blend of the two cultures.

The Culdees of Iona

- ❖ One of the last vestiges of the early church was centered on a small rocky island off the coast of Scotland. It was founded by Columba between 521-597 A.D.; a true apostle, having planted 300 churches in his native Ireland.
 - This community of believers observed the seventh day as a Sabbath and celebrated Passover. They placed strong emphasis on Christians having thorough knowledge of the bible, and planted teaching and training centers where each person was trained in the things of the Lord. And, they purchased slaves and set them free. These freed slaves were educated to read the bible in Hebrew.

The Waldensians

- ❖ The Waldensians were a community of Christians living in the remote valleys of the French and Italian Alps. During the fourth century when the Roman catholic church emerged, many bishops who resisted Constantine's changes were severely persecuted and fled into these remote high valleys.
 - These communities of believers observed the seventh day as a Sabbath, met in house churches, memorized scripture, preached and evangelized in the language of the people, moved in the gifts of the spirit, including prophesy and speaking in tongues, and anointed with oil for healing.

The Reformation

- ❖ The Protestant Reformation around 1517, also known as the Protestant Revolution was the schism within Western Christianity initiated by Martin Luther, John Calvin, and other early Protestants.
 - The reformation led to the creation of new national Protestant churches. The largest of the new churches groupings were the Lutherans (mostly in Germany, the Baltics and Scandinavia) and the Reformed churches (mostly in Germany, France, Switzerland, the Netherlands and Scotland). It also influenced the Church of England decisively after 1547.

Spiritual Awakening

- ❖ The process of restoration of the church started through a series of revivals and spiritual awakenings that began with John Wycliffe, from 1329-1384 A.D. Wycliffe was a philosopher at Oxford University where he had the rare opportunity to study the bible. As he studies, his life was transformed.
 - Wycliffe began to teach from the bible and translated it into English so the common people could read it. His goal was the restoration of the church to its New Testament purity. In his zeal to see the church restored, Wycliffe became fiercely evangelistic, training preachers and sending them all over England.

Moravian Prayer Movement

- ❖ In the early 1700s, a group of Moravian protestant refugees came into Germany, fleeing the thirty-year war in their native country. On August 13, 1727, the Holy Spirit fell at one

of their regular communion service being held at a Lutheran Church in the village of Bertholdsdorf. The place was filled with signs, wonders, and miracles.

- ❖ In response to this revival, the Moravians began day and night prayer watches that lasted for over 100 years, and missionaries were sent out all over the world.
- ❖ One of their converts was John Wesley, founder of Methodism.
- ❖ The Moravian Unity began this continuous prayer vigil anew in 1957 as part of their 500th anniversary observance.

The Great Awakening

- ❖ The term Great Awakening is used to refer to several periods of religious revival in American religious history. Historians and theologians identify three or four waves of increased religious enthusiasm occurring between the early 18th century and the late 19th century. Each of these "Great Awakenings" was characterized by widespread revivals led by evangelical Protestant ministers, a sharp increase of interest in religion, a profound sense of conviction and redemption on the part of those affected, an increase in evangelical church membership, and the formation of new religious movements and denominations.

Charismatics vs. Pentecostals

- ❖ Pentecostalism began in the early twentieth century. The beginning of the charismatic movement is usually dated to Easter 1960. Charismatic Christians believe that the gifts (Greek *charismata* χάρισμα, from *charis* χάρις, grace) of the Holy Spirit as described in the New Testament are available to contemporary Christians through the infilling or baptism of the Holy Spirit, with-or-without the laying on of hands. These spiritual gifts are believed to be manifest in the form of signs, miracles, and wonders, including, but not limited to, speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, prophecy, healing, and discernment of spirits.
- ❖ While Pentecostals and charismatics share these beliefs, there are differences. Foremost among theological differences is the tendency of many Pentecostals to insist that speaking in tongues is always the initial physical sign of receiving Spirit baptism. Charismatics generally believe that the baptism with the Holy Spirit occurs at the new birth, and prefer to call subsequent encounters with the Holy Spirit by other names, such as "being filled." Charismatics tend to accept a range of supernatural experiences. such as prophecy, miracles, healing, or "physical manifestations of an altered state of consciousness" as evidence of having been baptized or filled with the Holy Spirit.

- ❖ Pentecostals have traditionally placed a high value on evangelization and missionary work. Charismatics, on the other hand, have tended to see their movement as a force for revitalization and renewal within their own church traditions.

Messianic Movement

- ❖ Messianic Judaism is a syncretic religious movement that arose in the 1960s and 70s during the fourth great awakening. It blends evangelical Christian theology with elements of religious Jewish practice and terminology. As with many religious faiths, the exact tenets held vary from congregation to congregation.
 - In 1967, Jordanian forces attacked Israeli-held West Jerusalem on the war's second day. After hand to hand fighting between Israeli and Jordanian soldiers on the Temple Mount, the Israel Defense Forces captured East Jerusalem, along with the entire West Bank. East Jerusalem, along with some nearby West Bank territory, was subsequently annexed by Israel, as were the city's Christian and Muslim holy sites.

International House of Prayer

- ❖ The International House of Prayer (IHOP or IHOPKC) is an evangelical charismatic Pentecostal Christian missions organization based in Kansas City, Missouri. IHOPKC is most well known for its daily prayer meetings based on its "harp and bowl" worship model that are held 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year since September 19, 1999.
 - The International House of Prayer is committed to seeing the nation of Israel walking in their full destiny at the end of the age. Its primary role is to pray for and partner with Messianic Jews who are living in Israel. Their mission is to mobilize intercessors in the Church to pray for Israel, and to stand with and encourage Messianic believers in Israel. The operation and visitation of the Spirit in Israel is a vital part of releasing the great end-time harvest among the nations (Eze 36:23–36).

Harp and Bowl

- ❖ The Harp and Bowl style of worship, which features musical prayer, derives its name from Revelation 5:8, which describes heavenly creatures which each "had a harp" and "were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints."

— ^{Rev 5:8} Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

- ❖ A common feature of harp and bowl worship is antiphonal singers, who use the Bible as a song book along with spontaneous instrumental accompaniment. This style can sustain long periods of worship.

Boiler Rooms

- ❖ One of the fastest growing international prayer movements is often called The Boiler Rooms. It is different from the 24-7 Harp and Bowl style that comes out of IHOP in Kansas City.
- ❖ The first “Boiler Room” was established in Reading, UK back in 2001. It was birthed by Peter Grieg. He has written a book about the history of 24-7 prayer called Red Moon Rising.
- ❖ The Boiler rooms are a 24-7 Prayer Community and mission church centered on Jesus with a dependence on Prayer. It really is an attempt to create 21st century urban monasticism.

Prophetic Worship

- ❖ ^{1Chr 25:1} Moreover David and the captains of the army separated for the service some of the sons of Asaph, of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, stringed instruments, and cymbals.

Day and Night Worship

- ❖ ^{1Chr 9:33} These are the singers, heads of the fathers’ houses of the Levites, who lodged in the chambers, and were free from other duties; for they were employed in that work day and night.
- ❖ ^{1Chr 9:34} These heads of the fathers’ houses of the Levites were heads throughout their generations. They dwelt at Jerusalem.

The Tabernacle of David

⌘ ^{Amo 9:11} On that day I will raise up The tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, And repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, And rebuild it as in the days of old.

- The reference to the Tabernacle of David is not to the priestly tabernacle, and does not suggest that David created a new priestly lineage. David was not a priest under the old covenant, and could not minister to the Lord in the tabernacle.
- The scripture in Amos, and referenced again in Acts 15:16, is to the tent (mishkan), the house and kingly lineage of David that was destroyed by Israel's idolatry and dispersion to the nations. God promised David a king that would sit on his throne, and his name is Jesus.
- David simply reestablished the tabernacle of Moses that had been abandoned along with the ark of the covenant, and then prepared the materials for construction of the temple of the Lord (Solomon's Temple). The temple of Solomon was constructed in a similar configuration to the tabernacle of Moses, with the same Levitical and Aaronic priestly order.

⌘ ^{1Chr 23:1} So when David was old and full of days, he made his son Solomon king over Israel.

⌘ ^{1Chr 23:2} And he gathered together all the leaders of Israel, with the priests and the Levites.

⌘ ^{1Chr 23:3} Now the Levites were numbered from the age of thirty years and above; and the number of individual males was thirty-eight thousand.

- ^{2Chr 1:3} Then Solomon, and all the assembly with him, went to the high place that was at Gibeon; for the tabernacle of meeting with God was there, which Moses the servant of the Lord had made in the wilderness.

Part 4—Offices of the Tabernacle

Offices of the Tabernacle

- ⌘ Num 3:6 Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may serve him.
- ⌘ Num 3:7 And they shall attend to his needs and the needs of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of meeting, to do the work of the tabernacle.
- ⌘ Num 3:8 Also they shall attend to all the furnishings of the tabernacle of meeting, and to the needs of the children of Israel, to do the work of the tabernacle.
- ⌘ Num 3:9 And you shall give the Levites to Aaron and his sons; they are given entirely to him from among the children of Israel.
- ⌘ Ezz 6:18 They assigned the priests to their divisions and the Levites to their divisions, over the service of God in Jerusalem, as it is written in the Book of Moses.
- ⌘ 1Chr 23:4 Of these, twenty-four thousand were to look after the work of the house of the Lord, six thousand were officers and judges,
- ⌘ 1Chr 23:5 four thousand were gatekeepers, and four thousand praised the Lord with musical instruments, "which I made," said David, "for giving praise."
 - Workers of the House (Includes Elders, Bishops, and Deacons)
 - Officers and Judges (Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers)
 - Gatekeepers (Watchman, Intercessors, and Spiritual Warriors)
 - Musicians and Singers (Worship Leaders)

Elders and Bishops

- ⌘ Tit 1:5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you—
- ⌘ Tit 1:6 if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination.
- ⌘ Tit 1:7 For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money,

- α Tit 1:8 but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled,
- α Tit 1:9 holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.
- ❖ Elder – The earliest organization of the Church in Jerusalem was, according to most scholars, similar to that of Jewish synagogues, but it had a council or college of ordained “presbyters” (Greek: πρεσβύτεροι elders, priests).
- ❖ Bishop – A “bishop” (English derivation from the New Testament Greek ἐπίσκοπος, epískopos, overseer, guardian) is an ordained or consecrated member of the Christian clergy who is generally entrusted with a position of authority and oversight.
 - Often, the word “presbyter” was not yet distinguished from “overseer” (ἐπίσκοπος epískopos, later used exclusively to mean bishop), as in Acts 20:17, Titus 1:5,7 and 1 Peter 5:1. The earliest writings of the Apostolic Fathers, the Didache and the First Epistle of Clement, for example, show the church used two terms for local church offices—presbyters (seen by many as an interchangeable term with episcopos or overseer) and deacon.
 - In Acts 11:30 and Acts 15:22, we see a collegiate system of government in Jerusalem chaired by James the Just, according to tradition the first bishop of the city. In Acts 14:23, the Apostle Paul ordains presbyters in churches in Anatolia.
 - Therefore, from historical writings of the word “presbyters,” we conclude that “elder” is the same position as “bishop,” and often called “overseer.”
 - In each church, the college or presbyter-overseers (also called presbyter-bishops) did not exercise an independent supreme power; it was subject to the Apostles or to their delegates.

Prayer for Healing

- α Jam 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.
 - Act 19:11 Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul,
 - Act 19:12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.
 - Mat 9:20 And suddenly, a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years came from behind and touched the hem of His garment.

- ^{Mat 9:21} For she said to herself, If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well.
- ^{Mat 9:22} But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well. And the woman was made well from that hour.

Deacons

- α ^{1Tim 3:8} Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money,
- α ^{1Tim 3:9} holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience.
- α ^{1Tim 3:10} But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless.
- ❖ Deacon – The word “deacon” is derived from the Greek word *diákonos* (διάκονος), which is a standard ancient Greek word meaning servant, waiting-man, minister or messenger. One commonly promulgated speculation as to its etymology is that it literally means “through the dust,” referring to the dust raised by the busy servant or messenger.
 - Deacon is a ministry in the Christian Church that is generally associated with service of some kind.
 - The only person in Scripture to hold the title deacon is Phoebe, a woman, described in passing in Romans 16:1-2 as a deacon (*diakonos*) of the church in Cenchreae, without specific duties or authority defined in the position she held.
 - It is generally believed that the office of deacon originated in the selection of seven men by the apostles, among them Stephen, to assist with the charitable work of the early church as recorded in Acts 6.
 - Female deacons are mentioned by Pliny the Younger in a letter to Trajan dated c. 112. The exact relationship between male and female Deacons varies. In some traditions a female deacon is simply a member of the order of deacons; in others, deaconesses constitute a separate order; in others, the title “deaconess” was also given to the wife of a deacon.

The Fivefold Ministries

- α Eph 4:11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,
- α Eph 4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,
- α Eph 4:13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.
 - Apostles govern
 - Prophets guide
 - Evangelists gather
 - Pastors guard
 - Teachers ground

- ❖ People in the New Testament holding one or more of the fivefold ministry offices:
 - Apostles – The Twelve (Luk 6:13-16), Matthias (Act 1:24-26), Paul (Gal 1:1), Barnabas (Act 14:14), Andronicus and Junia (Rom 16:7)
 - Prophets – The company from Jerusalem (Act 11:27-28), Agabus (Act 21:10-11), Judas and Silas (Act 15:32), the daughters of Philip (Act 21:9), Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen, and Paul (Act 13:1-3)
 - Evangelists – Philip (Act 21:9)
 - Teachers – Apollos (Act 18:25), Paul (2Tim 1:11), Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen (Act 13:1-3).

Apostles

- ❖ Apostle – An “apostle,” from Classical Greek ἀπόστολος (apóstolos), meaning “one who is sent away,” is a messenger and ambassador.
 - The Friberg Greek Lexicon gives a broad definition as one who is sent on a mission, a commissioned representative of a congregation, a messenger for God, a person who has the special task of founding and establishing churches.

- The literal meaning in English is therefore an emissary, from the Latin “mitto” (send) and “ex” (from). The more general meaning is translated into Latin as “missio,” and from this word we get “missionary.”
- According to Walter Bauer’s Greek-English Lexicon of the NT, Judaism had an office known as an apostle called a “shalich,” a messenger.

Prophets

- ❖ Prophet – The English word prophet comes from the Greek word προφήτης (profétés) meaning advocate. God’s calling as a prophet is not to elevate an individual for their own glory, but for the glory of God and to turn people to him.
 - James Jordan argues that the office of prophet involves more than delivering the direct revelations of God. He writes, “The full meaning of prophet is council member, a member of God’s Divine Council...Moses, who is an exemplary prophet of the Old Covenant (Num 12:6-8)... not only received information from the Counsel and passed its decisions onto the people...he also actively argued before the Council when he felt it necessary, even changing God’s mind on occasion (Exo 32:7-14, 30-35; Num 14:13-19).”
 - In Hebrew, the word “Navi” or spokesperson, traditionally translates as prophet. The meaning of prophet is perhaps in Deuteronomy 18:18, where God said, “...and I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.” Thus, the prophet was thought to be the “mouth” of God.
 - The Hebrew root for *Navi* is based on a two-letter root which denotes hollowness or openness. To receive transcendental wisdom, one must make oneself ‘open’.
 - In Christianity, a prophet or seer is one inspired by God through the Holy Spirit to deliver a message for a specific purpose.
 - If an apostle is a “sent one” with a message from God, and a prophet is a spokesperson for God, then it is evident why the early disciples of Jesus were considered “apostle-prophets.” Before their sending away the Twelve had been mere disciples, from Latin “discipulus,” one who learns, from “disco,” to learn. This event was for them thus a form of graduation, when they stepped up from being students to teachers. Therefore, an apostle-prophet must be able to teach the word of God.

Evangelists

- ❖ Evangelist – The word “evangelist” comes from the Koine Greek word εὐαγγέλιον (transliterated as “euangelion”) via Latinised Evangelium, as used in the canonical titles of the four Gospels, authored by Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John (also known as the Four Evangelists). The Greek word εὐαγγέλιον originally meant a reward given to the messenger for good news (εὖ = good, ἀγγέλλω = I bring a message; the word “angel” comes from the same root) and later “good news” itself.
 - Evangelism is the preaching of the Christian Gospel or the practice of relaying information about a particular set of beliefs to others with the intention of conversion. Therefore, an evangelist must know the written word of God.
 - If apostle-prophets are “sent ones” with a message from God for the purpose of turning people back to Him, then they also appear to operate in the office of the evangelist.
 - Mat 22:30 For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.
 - This is a reference to the Church, the body of Christ. Notice we are like angels of God in heaven, those who come as sent ones (apostles-prophets), bringing the message of the good new of the kingdom of God for the purpose of turning people back to God (evangelists).

Pastors

- ❖ Pastor – The word pastor derives from the Latin noun pastor which means “shepherd” and relates to the Latin verb pascere – “to lead to pasture, set to grazing, cause to eat.”
 - Jer 3:15 And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.
 - Present-day usage of the word is rooted in the Biblical image of shepherding. The Hebrew Bible (or Old Testament) uses the Hebrew word roeh, which is the root word for “sees” and “seer.”
 - Therefore, a pastor is also a prophet and a teacher.
 - The term “pastor” also relates to the role of “elder” within the New Testament.

Teachers

- ❖ Teacher – The role of teacher is often formal and ongoing, carried out at a school or other place of formal education. The objective is typically accomplished through either an informal or formal approach to learning, including a course of study and lesson plan that teaches skills, knowledge and thinking skills.
 - In Christianity, the teaching position includes the honored but informal position of starets or elder; a man, often a monastic, considered to be graced by God with certain gifts for the guidance of souls and the detection and correction of prelest (spiritual pride or deception), who acts as a spiritual guide or father.
 - In Judaism, a Rabbi is generally regarded as the Jewish spiritual teacher, and has many other responsibilities.

Part 5—Restoration of All Things

Restoration of All Things

- ❖ ^{Mat 17:11} Jesus answered and said to them, Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things.
- ❖ ^{Eph 5:25} Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,
- ❖ ^{Eph 5:26} that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,
- ❖ ^{Eph 5:27} that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.
 - ^{Zep 3:9} For then I will restore to the peoples a pure language, That they all may call on the name of the Lord, To serve Him with one accord.

Seek First the Kingdom

- ❖ Kingdom – A nation of people, both physical and spiritual, whose ruler is God as King.
- ❖ So a kingdom has a King and His name is Jesus, and a kingdom has a people who form a nation that serves that King.
- ❖ The kingdom belongs to the King and its people are His domain.
 - ^{1Pet 2:9} But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light
- ❖ ^{Mat 4:17} From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
- ❖ ^{Mat 6:33} But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
 - What does it mean to seek first the kingdom?

A Passion for The Kingdom

A passion for the lost	A passion for the kingdom
Can lead to getting notches on your bible. You go out getting decisions, but there is no real change.	Is an apostolic vision to transform a territory.
Is pastoral and evangelist, and is often driven by guilt.	Is apostolic and prophetic, and is driven by vision.
Sends people into isolated places to lay down their lives, with little fruit.	Sends apostolic teams with authority to change nations.
Holds meetings and invites people to attend.	Builds communities where the glory of God is manifested in the earth.
Wins converts and then goes on to the next cities to win more.	Builds apostolic training centers to equip the converts to go and take new cities.
Is good, but often does not produce lasting fruit.	Is God's strategy, and results in many lost being saved.

A Modern-Day Community

- α ^{Heb 10:24} And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,
- α ^{Heb 10:25} not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.
- α ^{Joh 17:15} I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.
- α ^{Joh 17:16} They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.
- α ^{Joh 17:17} Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.
- α ^{Joh 17:18} As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.
- ❖ The Lighthouse Church is the place of our corporate assembly where the Lord comes in the power of His Holy Spirit. It is intended to serve as an evangelistic expression to the local community.
- ❖ The Tabernacle is a ministry of The Lighthouse, and is the intimate place of His abiding corporate presence where we are filled, renewed, and receive corporate training and instruction for being sent out into the world.

- ❖ The Prophets Nest and other small home fellowship groups are ministries of The Lighthouse, and are established to build intimate community relationships, and provide discipleship and ministerial training on a personal level.
- ❖ Hebraic rooted (Rom 11:18)
 - Teaching the full word of God.
 - Honoring God's calendar and the feasts of the Lord.
 - Entering into God's rest and honoring His Sabbath.
 - Praying for Israel and the peace of Jerusalem.
 - Acknowledging and participating with God's prophetic plans for the nation of Israel, and the nations of the earth.
- ❖ Apostolic rooted (Act 2:42)
 - Advancing the kingdom of God; sharing the good news of Christ Yeshua and making disciples of all people.
 - Missions focused, for the nation of Israel and all the nations of the earth.
 - Seeking, developing, and moving in the gifts and supernatural power of the Holy Spirit; prophesy, signs, wonders, miracles, and healings.
- ❖ Prophetic rooted (1Co 14:1)
 - Hearing, declaring, and obeying the word of God.
 - Encouraging, strengthening, and edifying the body of Christ.
 - Prophetic actions as instructed by the Holy Spirit, to raise up and tear down spiritual and demonic strongholds, and establish spiritual foundations upon the earth for the coming kingdom of Christ.
- ❖ Grace centered (Gal 5:4)
 - Salvation by faith in Christ's atoning work alone, and not by any work of man, including man's work under God's written mosaic laws.
 - Walking in holiness; a nation of kings and priests, purified by the blood of Christ and set apart from the world to be His ambassadors, fulfill His will upon the earth, and do His good works.
 - Sanctification, the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit.

- ❖ Obedience to the faith (Jam 2:14-26)
 - Our good works in accordance with the will of God and per the instruction of the Holy Spirit; these will glorify our Father in heaven and demonstrate our faith in Him.
- ❖ Expression of the One New Man in Christ (Eph 2:14-16)
 - The abiding presence of God, The Tabernacle.
 - Corporate and open communion.
 - Corporate prayer and worship.
 - Confession of our faith in Christ and water baptism; a sign of the new covenant.
 - Confession and repentance from sin.
 - Anointing with oil and prayer for physical, spiritual, and emotional healing.
 - A place of refuge from the power of darkness.
 - A covenant community of believers.
 - The full and complete restoration of the Church; preparation of the bride of Christ for His imminent return, holy without blemish, and without spot or wrinkle.
- ❖ Equipping and commissioning of the five-fold ministries; apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher (Eph 4:11)
 - Discipleship.
 - Raising up leaders for the body of Christ.
 - Encouraging and supporting believers to step into their God called ministries within the body of Christ.
 - Sending out laborers into the fields of the harvest; the great commission.